House Passes Historic Health Care   Reform Bill
Rep. Wilson Commends Bill for   Lowering Costs, Reducing Deficit

WASHINGTON,   DC – Today, Congressman   Charlie Wilson (OH-6) supported the passage of an historic bill that reforms our   nation's health insurance system, brings down the deficit and expands access to   affordable, quality health care to nearly every American. The Affordable Health   Care for America Act passed with a vote of 220-215.

"Today I voted in   favor of historic reforms to our nation's health care industry," Wilson said. "I have   long-said I would support a plan that brought stability and security to the   health care system, lowered the cost of health care, and insured broader   coverage, without increasing our deficit. After months of deliberation, with   these conditions met, I proudly cast my vote for the Affordable Health Care for   America Act."

Reforming health care is a crucial part of   America's economic recovery. The bill   cuts long-term health care costs and reduces the deficit by $109 billion over   the first ten years, and continues to reduce the deficit to help grow the   economy and put it back on sound footing.

The legislation passed today   will cover 96% of Americans and guarantees stability, lower costs, higher   quality, and a greater choice of plans for all Americans. It puts individuals   and their doctors – not the insurance companies – in charge of your health care   decisions.

If you <u>have</u> insurance, this   bill:

  - Keeps your insurance company from   denying you care or coverage – or charging you more – because of diabetes, heart   disease or any other "pre-existing condition."
  - Gives you peace of mind that you   won't lose coverage if you lose your job, move, or change   jobs.
  - Prevents insurance companies from   dropping you because you get "too sick."
  - Covers preventive care with no   co-pays or deductibles.
  - Limits out-of-pocket expenses your   insurance company can make you pay.

If you <u>don't have</u>   insurance, this bill:

  - Lets you comparison shop for a   quality, affordable health plan through a new health insurance   exchange.
  - Offers you low group rates for   individual or family coverage.

- Helps lower your premiums with   affordability credits for those who need help paying.

- Prevents any insurance company from   denying you coverage for "pre-existing conditions."
- Extends coverage for young   Americans, allowing them to stay on their parents' health insurance plans up to   their 27th birthday.
- Includes a public health insurance   option to compete on a level playing field with private insurers.

For seniors, this   bill:

- Strengthens Medicare, extending its   solvency for years to come.
- Improves access to your   doctor.
- Lowers Medicare drug prices by   beginning to close the "donut hole" as early as next year.
- Reduces inefficiencies and program   costs to help Medicare remain solvent without cutting   benefits.
- Improves coordination and increases   the quality of care for seniors with diabetes, high blood pressure, and other   chronic conditions.

"I have always promised my   constituents that I will vote in their best interest," Wilson said. "While this   bill may not be perfect, its benefits to the residents of my district are   undeniable."

In Ohio's Sixth District, the Affordable Health   Care for America Act will:

- Improve employer-based coverage for   **365,000**   residents.
- Provide credits for up to   **174,000** households to   help pay for coverage.
- Improve Medicare for   **116,000** beneficiaries,   including closing the prescription drug "donut hole" for   **9,200**   seniors.
- Allow **12,600**   small businesses to obtain affordable health care   coverage and provide tax credits to help reduce health insurance costs for up to   **11,300** small businesses.

- Provide coverage for   **45,000** uninsured   residents.
- Protect up to **1,300**   families from bankruptcy due to unaffordable health care   costs.

- Reduce the cost of uncompensated   care for hospitals and health care providers by **$89**

million

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